

NOTE ON THE PRESENCE OF VESTIGIAL  
MUELLERIAN DUCTS IN A FULL-GROWN MALE  
LIZARD (*AMPHIBOLURUS MURICATUS*).

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In a paper\* on "The Vestigial Structures of the Reproductive Apparatus in the Male of the Green Lizard," Howes has described some interesting cases of the persistence of the Müllerian ducts in males of this species. In one male observed by him the oviducts were "all but fully developed," while in another a complete oviduct was present on one side; in a large number of specimens examined by him, remnants of the oviducts were found in the form of more or less isolated membranous tubes with blind ends, present on one or both sides. Other observers have noted their presence in allied genera and species, but, so far as I am aware, they have not been noticed in any Australian genus. In an adult male lizard, *Amphibolurus muricatus*, a form common in the scrubs round Sydney, which I dissected lately, well-marked rudiments of the Müllerian ducts were present. A number of other males were examined, but none showed any trace of Müllerian ducts; so that in this genus it appears they are not so generally present as in *Lacerta viridis*.

In the specimen observed, the male genital organs resemble, in essential detail, the condition in *Lacerta viridis*. The epididymes, that of the right side attached to the outer edge of the testis, that of the left to the dorsal surface of the corresponding testis, were supported by the broad ligament attached in front to the pigmented peritoneum of the dorsal body-wall. The Müllerian ducts were represented by two blind membranous tubes, 29 mm. in length and 2 mm. in greatest breadth, running along the outer margins

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of the broad ligaments and following the course of the epididymes, that of the right side being slightly the longer. The duct of the left side was continuous throughout its entire length and posteriorly it terminated blindly in front of the left kidney. Its anterior portion disposed in front of the testis formed an obtuse angle with the posterior part of the duct, and clearly represented the funnel-shaped anterior end of the fully-formed oviduct. The corresponding portion of the right duct was connected with the posterior part of the duct only by a delicate filament which passed, in the broad ligament, round the anterior outer dorsal border of the testis of that side; its posterior end terminated like the left just in front of the right kidney.